

The Alma Record

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EFFICIENCY TESTS.

It is said that Thomas Edison recently advertised for expert help and that efficient, well-trained men were found at the ratio of one to every thirty-eight applicants. A statement of that kind should stir up our thinking and make us anxious to provide adequate training for our young men.

The woods are full of men who are worth a hundred dollars a month and a little more, but the fellows who can command and earn five thousand dollars or more per year are much harder to find. Education and training are the things that make the difference and that is the reason why Alma College is one of the most important institutions in this community. The measure of a man is not his bank roll, not the clothes he wears, not the airs he may assume, but his ability to do something well, nay better than it is ordinarily done. There is always a place for that man or woman who is thoroughly prepared to do something, and many of us have to stand aside and see good positions go to others because we have not prepared ourselves for anything in particular. The tragedy of the unprepared is enacted every day, and a good many of us are the actors.

Alma College can be made a training ground for thousands of young men and women to prepare themselves for efficient citizenship, and just now we have a great opportunity to do something for our community, our state and our nation that will be of untold and lasting value. If efficiency means so much, let us prepare to make our young men and women efficient by enlarging Alma College which is right in our midst and waiting for us to help it give efficient service.

SPRINGTIME

Every morning and evening the birds give a concert in the groves, and it is absolutely free. They sing songs of gladness because they know that Spring is here and they have the opportunity to build a home and rear and educate their young. There is not a discordant note in the bird concert. There is room for all and all are glad to sing their best songs and thus add to the joy of the world.

Happiness is a part of their being, and they tell it to all the world every day. From the birds we may learn a useful lesson. The blessings we receive and the opportunities we have are many in comparison to theirs, and our struggles and trials are no greater, but somehow we forget to be thankful for the blessings that come to us and do not take time or thought to express our gratitude for all the gifts that come to us.

This week we have a special opportunity for doing something for the boys and girls that are ours. We have a chance to help build a place where they may learn to be the best kind of American citizens. This is one of the times when we should join in one big glad song of Thanksgiving.

It is a very significant fact that the men who were held prisoners in Germany, for attempting to capture the draft dodger, Grover Cleveland Bergdoll, were promptly released upon the demand from our department of state. Evidently there was not much note writing about the matter. The first note did the business, because it meant business.

THE THEATRE

The picture, "Twin Beds," which Mr. and Mrs. Carter DeHaven bring to the Strand today and tomorrow, is a transfer to the screen of one of the most popular and successful farce comedies that the stage has produced. It comes as the first of these favorites' production in affiliation with Associated First National Pictures.

The original plot of this ever enjoyable piece has been closely followed in making the picture, and as it is said to be one of the costliest plays ever purchased for picture use, a great deal of expense has been incurred in making the production adequate. It is reported to be a feature of exceptional merit from all angles of presentation. A glance at the cast of characters is sufficient to convince followers of pictures that this is a well-nigh all-star attraction. Beside Mr. and Mrs. DeHaven there are in the cast such luminaries as William Desmond, himself a popular star, Helen Raymond, who created the role of Signora Monti in the original London production of the play, Katherine Lewis and Lottie Williams.

The picture is said to fulfill all the prophecies made concerning it, and with these two popular favorites, supported by so competent a group of players, it bids fair to afford unusual entertainment.

Five Minute Chats on Our Presidents

By JAMES MORGAN

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JOHN ADAMS AND ABBY

1735—Oct. 19, John Adams born, Braintree, Mass.
1755—Graduated at Harvard.
1764—Married.
1774-77—In Congress.
1775-85—On Mission to France.
1785-88—Minister to England.

A SCHOOLGIRL complained that American history was so "littered up with Adamses" that she couldn't tell one from the other. Yet this most distinguished family in our national biography lived in America one hundred and fifty years before it broke into fame.

When the engagement was announced of John Adams of Braintree, Mass., to the daughter of Parson Smith of the adjoining town of Weymouth, people were shocked that Abby should marry so beneath her station. Was she not a Quincy and a Norton? And John, the son of a small farmer, was put down to fourteenth place among his twenty-four classmates, when Harvard catalogues were made up according to social rank. After that he taught school in Worcester to get enough money to study law, and the strictest of the Puritans looked on lawyers as ungodly.

Father-in-Law Smith was game, and tradition says that he preached down



Abigail Adams.

his gossiping parishioners from this well-chosen text: "John came neither eating bread nor drinking wine, and ye say he hath a devil!"

Although she never went to school, this paragon's daughter was by long odds the cleverest in the entire line of our president's wives, her published letters forming a delightfully human document in our too often unhuman history. When John joined the fathers of the republic in the great work of setting up the most masculine government the world ever saw, this mother of the republic had to stay home to rock the cradle, cook and patch for four little Adamses and to tend the farm. Milking and churning, knitting and darning, teaching and praying, tending and saving, she supported the family, inspired her husband in his progress to the presidency, and reared a son to follow in the father's footsteps. To Abigail Adams alone belongs the glory of having been the wife of one president and the mother of another.

In the war, it fell to Adams to do picket duty in Europe. Congress sent him to France with a thoughtful warning to put in the bottom of his dispatch bag plenty of lead or stone or other weighty substance to sink his papers. For his own neck no protection was proposed in event of the British capturing a signer of the rebel manifesto of July 4, 1776. Nevertheless, he took with him on the perilous trip his ten-year-old son, John Quincy.

On the next voyage, he carried not only John Quincy, but also his second son, and they were shipwrecked off the coast of Spain.

After five long, anxious years of separation from husband and children, the mother herself sailed to Europe, and the pioneer American woman to appear at the Court of St. James was Abigail, the farmwife of Braintree. Her presentation costume, according to her own description, was white lute-string "covered with white crepe, festooned with blue ribbon and mock-point lace, over a hoop of enormous extent, and with a narrow train three yards long; also ruffe cuffs, table lace ruffles and dress cap, with long lace lappets and two white plumes."

"You will be stared at a great deal," the Duke of Dorset kindly warned the Adamses. On the contrary, every back in the court circle was turned upon the Yankee rebels and Queen Charlotte received Abigail with "contempt and scorn."

A man can defend himself always, as Abigail's husband did right manfully when it fell to him to be the first independent American to stand before the throne of England. George III venturing to infer from his supposed dislike of France, a preference for England, his one-time subject frankly corrected the king: "I must avow to your majesty that I have no attachment but to my own country."

History of Pawnbroking.

The Roman emperors used to lend money upon land, and various systems of lending money by means of pledges followed. The business of pawnbroking was regulated in England in 1756, and licenses were issued in 1773.

TOWNLINE

Wm. Adams and family are back on their farm again.

Mrs. Wm. Bartley and daughter, Marion, spent Thursday afternoon with Mrs. Fred Kyes.

There was a good attendance at Sunday school in the Wright District Sunday.

Miss Josephine Johnson spent Thursday night with Miss Ella Shoemaker.

Mr. and Mrs. Dudley Hoyt, who have spent the winter in California, are expected to return in the near future.

Frank Part and George Whitcraft and George Simmons autoed to Midland county Sunday.

Mrs. Leslie Hoyt called on Mrs. Tom Morton of East Alma on Tuesday.

Paul Whitcraft called on George Shoemaker Wednesday afternoon.

Herbert Wheeler of Alma spent Saturday with his cousin, Leon Wheeler.

Orville Howe has moved to a farm near Elm Hall.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Dillman and children called on Mr. and Mrs. John Barry Tuesday.

Miss Opal Crum was a visitor at the Wright School on Tuesday.

Thelma Whitcraft visited school Thursday.

Melvan Adams and family of Alma spent Sunday with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Adams.

The Misses Opal Crum, Loretta, Barry, Marian and Mildred Bartley spent their Easter vacation at home.

Frank Whitcraft and two boys, Nelson and George Simmons autoed to the Chippawa Sunday on a fishing trip. They returned with seventy-four large suckers.

ELWELL

Mrs. Glen Langworthy returned home Wednesday after visiting a few weeks with her parents in Big Rapids.

Dell Evans is very ill with pneumonia at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Ray Baker.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. McCloskey of Alma visited at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ellis Potter a few days last week.

The Yinger quartette will be at the church here Friday evening.

Harry Lubbs of Mt. Pleasant was a business caller here Monday.

Mrs. Milo Langworthy and baby of Alma are visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Langworthy.

Mrs. Walter Lewis spent a few days last week with her aunt, Mrs. Alice Butcher of Elm Hall.

Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Evans of Alma visited Thursday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Baker.

Forest Bissel spent a few days last week with relatives at Breckenridge.

Vera Webb of Alma visited Thursday with her friends.

Doris Slingluff of Alma high school is spending the week with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Marlie Slingluff.

Rollie Saxton of Alma was a business caller here Friday.

Don Currence, Marlie Slingluff, Ralph Olmstead and Arthur Murphy were business callers in Saginaw Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Woodard visited relatives in Detroit last week.

Irene Margaret and Ivan Hilsinger of Vestaburg visited their grandmother, Mrs. Hilsinger and other relatives this week.

A party was given Monday evening at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Hutchinson. Progressive card games and music were the entertainment.

Mildred Courter won first prize and Marion Fisher the consolation. Refreshments were served and all report a good time.

Harry Hall of Elm Hall was a business caller here Thursday.

John Miller and Wm. Hutchinson were business callers at Harrison Saturday.

Several friends gathered at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Taft Monday evening to help Mr. Taft celebrate his birthday. A good time was had by all.

Bessie Small is visiting friends in this vicinity this week.

Mavis Tubbs of Mt. Pleasant is visiting relatives and friends here this week.

The mother and Daughter Circle was held with Mrs. Williams Tuesday afternoon.

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The Story of Our States

By JONATHAN BRACE
XIX.—INDIANA



IT WAS the French flag which first floated over Indiana. In the middle of the seventeenth century La Salle's explorations brought him through the wooded wilderness of Indiana. Shortly thereafter followed Jesuit missionaries from Quebec and in their trail came adventurous rangers and fur traders. French forts and trading posts were soon established. In 1763 the British took possession of this territory after the French and Indian wars, and remained in possession until the Revolution.

One of the holdest campaigns of the Revolution was that of Clark's little army, whose indomitable courage and audacity finally defeated the large British garrison at Vincennes and won the Northwest territory for Virginia. Pioneers from the East and from Kentucky made their way into this new territory, and among these was Abraham Lincoln's family. It was in 1810, the year that Indiana became the nineteenth state, that Lincoln attained citizenship in Indiana.

With the increase in population by 1800 Indiana Territory was formed, extending from the Ohio border west to the Mississippi and north to Canada. Vincennes was selected as the first capital. In 1804, when the Louisiana Purchase was made, the government of Louisiana was placed in the hands of the Indiana Territory officials, so that for one year the capital of Louisiana was also at Vincennes in Indiana.

Although nicknamed the Hoosier State, from the old southern slang for rough backwoodsman, Indiana, with its 36,254 square miles, its fifteen Presidential electors, and containing as it does the center of population, is considered of utmost importance politically.

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LEGIONNAIRES FAVOR APPEAL

(Continued from page one)
whether or not the structure is a memorial, Alma college needs an auditorium and a gymnasium. It is unquestionably true that an auditorium located upon the Alma College grounds could be made to serve many public needs. It is also unquestionably true that any memorial structure erected should have a practical use.

"As residents of Gratiot county, who appreciate the work that Alma College has done, the principles for which it stands, its present needs and its brilliant future if these needs are met, we believe the college is entitled not only to the hearty support of the members of the committee upon whose behalf this statement is issued, but to the support of the members of our order and the general public as well.

"Gratiot county should certainly show an interest in one of its best known institutions equal to the interest manifested by communities in different parts of the state."



DINING ROOM AND KITCHEN NEEDS

Let one thing percolate through your consciousness, Mr. Married. Your wife is just as fond of pretty useful nickle and silver electric utilities as you are of getting along in the world. If you want to make her home life more happy buy the electrical necessities for her everyday use.

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Today and Tomorrow

The Best Laugh of the Year
A Riot of a Night

Mr. and Mrs. Carter DeHaven

In the Uproariously Funny Screen Comedy DeLuxe

'TWIN BEDS'

Adapted From the Great Stage Success by
Margaret Mayo and Salisbury Field

Also 3 Acts of Vaudeville

Snub Pollard Comedy

Fox News

First Show 7:15

Vaudeville 9:00

SPECIAL FOR BALANCE of the WEEK

Ladies' One-Strap House Slippers,
good quality, low rubber heels, all
sizes, Special—

\$2.75

Ladies' Comfort Oxfords, low rubber
heels, special at..... \$2.75

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We also carry a complete and up-to-date line of Fishing Tackle. We invite you to look over our stock.

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THE CUT RATE STORE

408 North Woodworth Ave.

ALMA, MICH.

Fishing Tackle

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Opposite Strand Theater

"When the well goes dry we know the worth of water"

And when the pocket is empty we know the worth of money. The Happy-go-lucky individual who spends as much as he makes is a thin-skater. If sickness or loss of work should come he drops through and disappears. When old age descends upon him, it is unfortunate but true that he usually finds himself in the threadbare ranks of those who have seen better days.

Times have changed materially since Benjamin Franklin wrote those words about the well, but the lesson they impart is as unchanging as the stars. Those who practice thrift, who prepare for next year as well as this, go rapidly forward.

A steady-growing bank account gives them confidence to branch out and courage to tackle bigger things. It makes the step lighter and the heart more cheery.

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